

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 SAN JO 01568 01 OF 02 211426Z

46

ACTION L-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 EUR-12 SCA-01 INRE-00

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SEC-01 PRS-01

PA-02 USIE-00 H-02 SSO-00 /059 W

----- 104939

O R 211325Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9942

INFO DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 SAN JOSE 1568

JUSTICE PASS TO U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, SOUTHERN
DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR PGOV CS

SUBJECT: VESCO LETTER TO AMBASSADOR TODMAN

1. FOLLOWING PARAGRAPH 2 TRANSMITS TEXT OF LETTER
FROM VESCO TO AMBASSADOR TODMAN DATED APRIL 19
WHICH WAS DELIVERED TO THE AMBASSADOR LATE THAT
DAY. SPANISH TEXT OF LETTER APPEARED IN SAN JOSE
MORNING PAPERS APRIL 20. PARAGRAPH 3 BELOW
TRANSMITS FOR DEPARTMENTS'S INFO TEXT OF AMBASSADOR'S
REPLY DATED APRIL 20 WHICH IS BEING RELEASED IN
SPANISH TO THE PRESS.

2. "I READ YOUR VARIOUS STATEMENTS TO THE NEWS MEDIA
THAT THE UNITED STATES IS "DEDICATED" TO THE "VESCO
CASE" AND IT BROUGHT TO MIND A PREVIOUS STATEMENT
MADE BY OFFICIALS OF YOUR STATE DEPARTMENT
TO THE EFFECT THAT THEY WERE COMMITTED 100 PERCENT
TO OBTAIN MY RETURN TO THE U.S.A. IN
THAT STATEMENT, WHICH WAS MADE AT THE TIME OF
OF THE LAST EXTRADITION REQUEST IN THE BAHAMAS, IT
WAS MADE CLEAR THAT IF YOUR GOVERNMENT WAS
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 SAN JO 01568 01 OF 02 211426Z

SUCCESSFUL IN OBTAINING MY EXTRADITION TO THE

U. S. A., ON ANY BASIS WHATSOEVER, THEY WOULD PROCEED WITH OTHER CHARGES EVEN THOUGH THAT CONDUCT WOULD CLEARLY VIOLATE THE GOOD FAITH AND LEGAL PROVISIONS OF THE PREVAILING EXTRADITION TREATY. I MUST SAY THAT YOUR STATEMENTS ARE ALSO CONSISTENT WITH THOSE EXPRESSED BY INVESTIGATORS OF A U. S. SENATE COMMITTEE THAT IS HEADED BY SENATOR JACKSON, WHO IS CURRENTLY CAMPAIGNING FOR THE U. S. PRESIDENCY. YOU MAY RECALL THAT THEY RECENTLY STATED TO A REPORTER FROM COSTA RICA THAT IN ESSENCE THEY ARE SEARCHING FOR ANY MOTIVE THAT WILL PERMIT A NEW REQUEST FOR EXTRADITION. THE CLEAR IMPLICATION OF THESE STATEMENTS IS THAT THE U. S. IS NOT INTERESTED IN BRINGING ME TO TRIAL ON ANY ALLEGED CHARGE OF WRONGDOING BUT IN REALITY YOUR GOVERNMENT SEEKS TO OBTAIN MY EXTRADITION FOR OTHER PURPOSES. IT WAS REPORTED THAT YOU LAUGHED DURING YOUR RECENT NEWS CONFERENCE WHEN ASKED ABOUT THE "VESCO CASE". I MUST ADMIT THAT I HAD QUITE A CHUCKLE AS A RESULT OF READING YOUR POLITICALLY CALCULATED STATEMENT THAT I SHOULD VOLUNTARILY RETURN TO THE U. S. A. TO PROVE MY INNOCENCE. PERHAPS YOU FEEL I SHOULD FURTHER PROVE MY INNOCENCE IN THE WELL KNOWN POLITICAL CONTRIBUTION CASE EVEN THOUGH A JURY HAS ACQUITTED MY CO-DEFENDANTS, WHO WERE MEMBERS OF EX-PRESIDENT NIXON'S CABINET; OR MAYBE YOU WERE THINKING OF THE RELATED ALLEGATION THAT WAS USED AS THE BASIS FOR AN EXTRADITION ATTEMPT IN COSTA RICA,

DURING WHICH THE COURT REQUESTED THE U. S. TO PROVIDE DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THE CHARGE AND YOUR GOVERNMENT DID NOT EVEN PROVIDE ONE DOCUMENT OF PROOF. IF IT ISN'T THE FOREGOING CHARGES THAT YOU HAD IN MIND WHEN YOU STATED THAT I SHOULD PROVE MY INNOCENCE, THEN IT CAN ONLY BE THE REMAINING ALLEGATION THAT WAS USED AS THE BASIS FOR THE LAST EXTRADITION ATTEMPT IN THE BAHAMAS. SINCE YOU PUBLICLY STATED THAT YOU THOROUGHLY UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 SAN JO 01568 01 OF 02 211426Z

STUDIED THE "VESCO CASE", YOU MUST BE AWARE THAT THE U. S. NOT ONLY FAILED TO PROVIDE SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE TO EVEN PROVE A "PRIMA FACIE" CASE IN THE BAHAMAS, BUT IN THE TRIBUNAL'S FINAL JUDGMENT AND FORMAL OPINION THE COURT FELT "DUTY BOUND" TO WARN YOUR GOVERNMENT ABOUT, QUOTE "EXTORTING EVIDENCE AS DEPOSITIONS OR CONCOCTING EVIDENCE IN DEPOSITIONS IN ORDER

TO SATISFY THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE LAW,
KNOWING THAT THERE IS NO MEANS OF PUTTING
THOSE DEPOSITIONS TO TEST (IN THE EXTRADITION
PROCESS)". YOU OBVIOUSLY KNOW THAT THE WELL
PUBLICIZED \$224 MILLION SEC ACTION THAT WAS
INITIATED OVER FOUR YEARS AGO IS A CIVIL CASE
THAT RELATES ONLY TO PURPORTED NON-COMPLIANCE
WITH SEC REPORTING RULES AND THAT IT IS NOT A
CRIMINAL CASE NOR DOES IT ALLEGE THAT I TOOK A
SINGLE PENNY, EVEN THOUGH THE SEC HAS ENCOURAGED
THE NEWS MEDIA TO IMPROPERLY USE WORDS SUCH AS
"LOOTING AND SWINDLING".
IN MOST CIVILIZED COUNTRIES A PERSON IS

INNOCENT UNTIL PROVEN GUILTY AND THEREFORE IT IS
DIFFICULT TO ACCEPT YOUR POSITION THAT I SHOULD
HAVE TO PROVE MY INNOCENCE, PARTICULARLY WHEN
YOUR GOVERNMENT HAS FAILED TO ESTABLISH EVEN A
MINIMAL "PRIMA FACIE" CASE IN EACH OF THE
ALLEGATIONS MADE AGAINST ME. IT WOULD THERE-
FORE APPEAR THAT PROOF OF INNOCENCE IS NOT
THE MOST MEANINGFUL PART OF YOUR STATEMENT BUT
REALLY THAT PART WHERE YOU SAY I SHOULD "VOLUN-
TARILY RETURN TO THE U. S. A." MAY INDICATE THE
TRUE OBJECTIVES. LONG AGO I HAD SEVERED ALL
TIES WITH THE U. S., INCLUDING RENOUNCING
CITIZENSHIP, AND I DO NOT FEEL OBLIGATED TO
TRAVEL AROUND THE WORLD TO "PROVE MY INNOCENCE"
REGARDING UNFOUNDED ALLEGATIONS THAT ARE
CREATED FOR ULTERIOR PURPOSES. FURTHER, THE
VAST PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN RELATING ME TO THE
WATERGATE ERA MAKES IT IMPOSSIBLE TO OBTAIN A
FAIR AND IMPARTIAL HEARING OF THE FACTS.
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 SAN JO 01568 01 OF 02 211426Z

TODMAN

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 SAN JO 01568 02 OF 02 211443Z

46

ACTION L-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 EUR-12 SCA-01 INRE-00

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SEC-01 PRS-01

PA-02 USIE-00 H-02 SSO-00 /059 W

----- 105126

O R 211325Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9943

INFO DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 SAN JOSE 1568

I WAS ALSO AMUSED BY YOUR STATEMENT THAT YOU COULD NOT UNDERSTAND THE ATTENTION AND PUBLICITY THAT THE "VESCO CASE" HAS BEEN GIVEN IN COSTA RICA. I SUGGEST THAT YOU SIMPLY ASK YOUR OWN EMPLOYEES AT THE EMBASSY AND PARTICULARLY THE POLITICAL ATTACHES ABOUT THEIR ACTIVITIES AND PARTICIPATION IN THE LOCAL PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN, THEIR INTERVENTION WITH CONGRESSMEN, POLITICIANS AND NEWSPAPER REPORTERS, IN AN EFFORT TO CONTINUE THE VICIOUS POLITICAL CAMPAIGN AGAINST ME. IT MIGHT ALSO BE ENLIGHTENING TO INQUIRE ABOUT THE CONTINUOUS EFFORTS BY THE SEC TO ATTEMPT TO HAVE OTHER COUNTRIES SUCH AS SWITZERLAND, LUXEMBOURG AND CANADA CREATE ALLEGATIONS AGAINST ME TO SATISFY MOTIVES OF THE SEC. IN VIEW OF THE PUBLICIZED INVESTIGATION INTO CIA ACTIVITIES AND THE RECENT SUCCESS OF THE SEC IN DISRUPTING THE HONDURAS GOVERNMENT I CAN ONLY ASSUME THAT THEIR EFFORTS AND ACTIVITIES WILL INTENSIFY.

I REALIZE THAT THIS LETTER WILL PROBABLY CAUSE YOUR GOVERNMENT TO INTENSIFY THE HARASSMENT AND PERSECUTION OF PAST BUSINESS ASSOCIATES AND MEMBERS OF MY FAMILY AND CREATE ANOTHER UNFOUNDED ALLEGATION TO BE USED AS A BASIS FOR AN EXTRADITION REQUEST. HOWEVER, SINCE COSTA RICA IS THE HOME OF MY FAMILY AND WE DO NOT INTEND TO MOVE TO THE UNITED STATES, I WILL DEFEND MYSELF HERE AND ABIDE BY THE DECISIONS OF THE COSTA RICAN COURTS.

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 SAN JO 01568 02 OF 02 211443Z

TION REQUEST. HOWEVER, SINCE COSTA RICA IS THE HOME OF MY FAMILY AND WE DO NOT INTEND TO MOVE TO THE UNITED STATES, I WILL DEFEND MYSELF HERE AND ABIDE BY THE DECISIONS OF THE COSTA RICAN COURTS.

ROBERT L. VESGLZ

3. DEAR MR. VESCO: I HAVE READ WITH INTEREST
YOUR LETTER OF 19 APRIL 1975 WITH ITS NUMEROUS
ATTEMPTS TO DISTORT THE FACTS AND THUS TO MISLEAD.

IN REPLY I SIMPLY WISH TO ASSURE YOU ONCE
AND FOR ALL THAT NONE OF MY ACTIVITIES OR
STATEMENTS HAVE ANY POLITICAL MOTIVATION WHATSOEVER.
EVER.

THE ONLY CONCERN OF THE UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT IN THIS MATTER IS TO SEE THAT ITS
LAWS ARE NOT VIOLATED WITH IMPUNITY AND THAT
JUSTICE IS DONE. OUR EFFORTS IN THIS REGARD
WILL CONTINUE BY STRICTLY LEGAL MEANS UNTIL
THE COURTS OF THE UNITED STATES CAN PRONOUNCE
THEIR DECISION. SINCERELY YOURS.

TODMAN

TODMAN

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EXTRADITION, TEXT, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SANJO01568
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750139-0259
From: SAN JOSE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750432/aaaabdsp.tel
Line Count: 241
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION L
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 JUL 2003 by SilvaL0>; APPROVED <02 FEB 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VESCO LETTER TO AMBASSADOR TODMAN
TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, CS, US, (VESCO, ROBERT), (TODMAN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006